

Resolution of Support

Whereas, the health of Michigan's children is in serious jeopardy due to poor nutrition and lack of physical activity, contributing to the growing rates of obesity in our state; and

Whereas, during the past four decades, obesity rates have soared among all age groups; and

Whereas, obesity rates have more than quadrupled among children ages 6 to 11; and

Whereas, obesity increases the risk of chronic diseases such as cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes and cancer; and

Whereas, it is estimated that 1 in 3 children born in the United States in 2000 will develop type 2 diabetes at some point in their lives; and

Whereas, we need urgent action to turn back this rising tide; be it therefore

Resolved, that the undersigned organization endorses the following public policy priorities related to the reduction of childhood obesity and supports the efforts of the *Healthy Kids, Healthy Michigan Coalition* to move them forward through the appropriate public policy vehicle.

1. **Physical and Health Education Requirements:** Guidelines should be adopted which address the frequency of class, length of class, class size, participation guidelines, and course guidelines for all public school children in grades K-8 including those in need of individualized educational programs.
2. **Coordinated School Health Council Requirements:** Guidelines should be adopted which address the need for public school districts to create and maintain Coordinated School Health Councils which have specific goals, strategies, benchmarks, and required reports due yearly, designed to improve student and staff physical, mental, and social health and wellness.
3. **Body Mass Index (BMI) Surveillance:** Height, weight, and BMI capabilities should be added into the Michigan Care Improvement Registry and its use possibly expanded through promotion of Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) compliance.
4. **Medicaid Coverage of Childhood Obesity:** Programs should be established to enhance coverage and provide education for pediatric obesity, expanding the number of children receiving clinical support in managing their weight and associated unhealthy behaviors in addition to establishing "Centers of Best Practice".
5. **Complete Streets and Safe Routes to School:** Transportation funding and programming guidelines should be established to elevate the pedestrian and bicycle facility eligibility and awards. Incentives and legislation should be adopted to apply Complete Streets/Safe Routes to School (SRTS)/Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) including safety of pedestrians and bicyclists when building, reconstructing or rehabilitating public infrastructure.
6. **Access to Fresh, Healthy Food at Food Retailers in Underserved Areas:** Tax incentives (personal property, energy efficient equipment, brownfields) should be adopted that encourage food retailer expansions and developments that include fresh healthy foods in underserved areas. In order to encourage the purchase of fresh, healthy food, nutrition education and increased food stamp options should be emphasized.

Organization's Name_____

Contact Person's Name_____ Title/Position_____

Street Address_____

City/State_____ Zip Code_____

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